

Boise Cascade Company

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Boise Cascade

November 26, 2013

Barbara O'Toole
US EPA New England
5 Post Office Square Suite 100 (OSRR07-2)
Boston, MA 02109-3912

Dear Ms. O'Toole:

Boise Cascade Company is in receipt of the US EPA's request for Information regarding the Leeds Metal Superfund Site in Leeds, Maine. Per Russell Strader's discussion with Mr. Maximilian Boal earlier today, we are providing the EPA with a letter explaining why Boise Cascade Company is not involved in the Leeds site and, therefore, why we will not be responding beyond this letter to the EPA's request.

The names may get a bit confusing in the following explanation so please feel free to call me if I have confused you. Starting in the mid 1970's through the mid 1990's Boise Cascade **Corporation** owned a paper mill in Rumford, Maine that I understand is the subject of this inquiry. That mill was sold to Mead Corporation in 1996.

In 2004, Boise Cascade **Corporation** sold its forest products assets and the name "Boise Cascade" to a private equity group and then immediately changed its name to OfficeMax Incorporated. It operated as OfficeMax until being acquired very recently by Office Depot. Matt Broad, who is copied on the EPA letter, is the former general counsel of OfficeMax and we have taken the liberty of forwarding a copy of the EPA letter to the OfficeMax/Office Depot legal department.

Boise Cascade **Company**, and its predecessor Boise Cascade, **LLC**, did not come into existence until late 2004 – some 8 years after Boise Cascade **Corporation** sold the Rumford Mill – and at no time has owned any paper mill in Maine. Rather, OfficeMax (now Office Depot) retained whatever liabilities there may be concerning the paper mill at Rumford, Maine.

As I noted near the outset, this series of events can be a bit confusing with the different and distinct legal entities but with similar names. The bottom line is that Boise Cascade **Company** has never had any legal affiliation with or ownership of the paper mill in Rumford, Maine and only came into existence almost a decade after the mill was sold. Consequently, we do not want to waste your time or ours and trust that this explanation is sufficient to enable you to focus on the prior owners of the mill.

Boise Cascade Company

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,



John Sahlberg

cc: Maximilian Boal (at the EPA address in Boston)
Russell Strader